



## **Week 2 Assignment #4 – Literature Search and Review Synopsis**

### **Overview**

This assignment reports the search process used to identify and select a research report published in a scholarly journal which provides important information about the research topic you have selected.

### **Directions**

You will type your responses on a separate Word document that you create. To submit your assignment, you will click on the open button, attach your work, and submit.

Use the rubric on the final page of this document to guide your work.

This portion of this week's assignments will be used in your course project, *Action Research Proposal*, which is due in Week 5. You will use your identified topic, from your Week 1 Assignment #1, to locate more research articles. Your Electronic Database Search Report needs to investigate different areas of your *Action Research Proposal* topic.

Prior to completing this assignment, read the document titled Searching Electronic Databases at LU March and John Gray Library. This document is included in the Resource section of this course.

## Literature Search and Review Synopsis

### Electronic Database Search Report

1. I want to find a research report about: \_\_\_\_\_  
for my Action Research Proposal about \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Briefly explain how this topic relates to your Action Research Proposal topic of interest.
3. For my searches, I used:
4. Y\_\_ N\_\_ Lamar University Mary and John Gray Library Electronic Resources
5. Y\_\_ N\_\_ Academic Search Complete Database used to search for research report
6. Describe processes you used for each of your searches to identify a research report summarize.
7. What report search terms/keywords and data types did you use for each search?
8. With the second and subsequent searches, what Boolean operators did you use to limit your searches?

Be sure to provide enough detail so that another person may replicate the findings of your search.

#### ***First Search***

- Search terms:
- # of articles identified \_\_\_\_\_
- Is this search sufficiently limited? (Y/N) \_\_\_\_\_. Why?

#### ***Second Search***

- Search terms and Boolean operators to limit/focus search results.
- # of articles identified \_\_\_\_\_
- Is this search sufficiently limited? (Y/N) \_\_\_\_\_. Why?

#### ***Third Search***

- Search terms and Boolean operators to limit/focus search results.
- # of articles identified \_\_\_\_\_
- Is this search sufficiently limited? (Y/N) \_\_\_\_\_. Why?

In the next section, report the final database search and the process used to identify the research report which you selected for this review and synopsis.

### ***Final Search***

- Number of times your search was repeated with additional or different search terms:  
\_\_\_\_\_
- List Search terms, data types and Boolean operators used to limit/focus search results for final search. Provide enough detail that another person may replicate the findings of your final search.
- Search terms and Boolean operators to limit/focus search results.
- # of articles identified: \_\_\_\_\_
- Is this search sufficiently limited? (Y/N)
- How many abstracts did you view? \_\_\_\_\_
- How many full articles did you read? \_\_\_\_\_

### **Abstracts/Articles**

1. Select two articles from your search.
2. Explain why you selected articles for your review and synopsis?
3. Copy and paste the APA reference and abstract (100-150 word description of the research report) in your assignment document.

**Rubric**

Use the following Rubric to guide your work on Week 2 Assignment #4.

Tasks ↓	Accomplished 10-8 points	Proficient 7-6 points	Needs Improvement 5-0 points
Topic for search	Search topic identified with a strong case made for how it relates to Action Research Proposal topic.	Search topic identified with brief or incomplete explanation of relationship with Action Research Proposal topic.	Topic is identified with weak or no explanation of relationship with Action Research Proposal topic.
Identify library and database used for electronic search.	Both the Lamar University library and Academic Search Complete database used for electronic search.	Both the Lamar University library and Academic Search Complete database used for electronic search.	Lamar University library or Academic Search Complete data base not used for electronic search.
First Search	Search term(s)/keywords listed; number of articles identified; explanation of search limitations is thoughtful.	Search term(s)/keyword listed; number of articles identified. Explanation of search limitations is brief.	Elements of template blank, missing or incomplete. Explanation of search limitations insufficient.
Second/Third/Final Search	All elements of template completed and indicate a working understanding of Boolean operators. Explanation of search limitations is thoughtful.	All elements of template completed; Additional keywords are added with Boolean operators to limit search. Explanation of search limitations is brief.	Elements of template incomplete or process of limiting search with Boolean operators not followed. Explanation of limitations is insufficient or not reasonable.
Abstracts/Articles viewed	All elements reported. Selection explanation links article to Action Research Proposal topic.	All elements reported. Selection explanation is reasonable but does not link article to Action Research Proposal topic.	Elements of template blank, missing or incomplete. Selection explanation is not reasonable or linked to Action Research Proposal topic.
APA Reference and Abstract submitted.	APA reference and abstract of selected article is included.	APA reference and abstract of selected article is included.	APA reference or abstract of selected article is not included.